

**Array Connector With Deflectable Coupling Structure For Mating With Other  
Components**

**ABSTRACT**

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10 A connector is described which uses a coupling structure integrally formed from a plurality of discrete elements that are aligned to receive an insertion force. In response to the insertion force affecting some or all of the elements, the affected elements move from an original state into a deflected state. In the deflected state, the overall thickness of the coupling structure is reduced. The relationship between the coupling structure and a dimension of a cavity that is to be occupied by the coupling structure is such that when the thickness of the coupling structure is reduced, the dimension of the cavity is increased.